



Areas affected by Storm Daniel (IOM)

Highlights

- Of the 43,000 people displaced by the floods, UNICEF estimates that at least 17,000 may be children.
- More than half of assessed health facilities in Al-Marj district, Derna city and part of Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar are reported either partially or totally non-functional.
- On 21 September, the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator concluded a two-day visit to Benghazi. She met with families who fled their flood-ravaged homes and sought safety in Benghazi.
- The UN and partners' aid efforts are ramping up in the affected areas. This includes establishing six field hospitals, distributing core relief items and food, chlorinating water reservoirs and providing psychosocial first-aid services.

Situation overview

As of 23 September, the World Health Organization has recorded more than 4,000 deaths and over 8,540 people missing. An estimate 43,059 people have been internally displaced ([IOM](#)); at least 17,000 of them may be children according to [UNICEF](#). [Children](#) are particularly exposed to risks of waterborne and other disease, mental health and psychological disorders.

On 21 September, Georgette Gagnon, the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, concluded a two-day [visit](#) to Benghazi. During her visit, she met with internally displaced families and discussed the strengthening of aid efforts with humanitarian organizations and local authorities.

Despite on-going efforts to repair infrastructure, damaged roads, intermittent power and internet outages as well as logistical constraints continue to impact relief efforts.

Health

WHO conducted a rapid assessment of 78 health facilities in affected areas, including Al-Marj district, Derna city and part of Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar. More than half of the facilities were reported either partially or totally non-

functional due to shortage of medical supplies, medicines, equipment or staff, damaged buildings and limited accessibility. Amongst those, 12 hospitals are reported partially functional. In Assahel and Jaris areas in Al-Marj districts, an estimated 52 per cent (28 out of 54) of assessed primary health care (PHC) facilities were reported as partially functional or non-functional, mainly due to lack of medical supplies and medicine. Lack of personnel and medical staff is also a constraint. Meanwhile, small cities such as Merad Massoud, Alwardiea, and Alhaniea face a lack of medical facilities and transportation. Health promotion activities and medical waste management are crucial needs in these areas.

Water and Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

[Water](#) and sanitation services have been severely affected. Rushing floodwater led to the demolition of water networks in multiple locations, including the destruction of pipes linking the water desalination plant at Derna; damage to the sewage pipes linking eastern and western Derna; and cutting off links between man-made river boreholes at Al Bayada supplying Almerj and other cities. The General Company of Water and Waste Water (GCWW) started deploying support to most affected cities; extensive damages have overwhelmed GCWW operational capacity though. The GCWW suffers from significant shortages in basic equipment, including suction pumps, drainage pumps, water and sewage trucks. There is also limited capacity available for water quality testing.

In Derna, half of the 18 boreholes in the city are out of service, and the sewage network is heavily damaged. Tap water consumption remains risky. There are mounting concerns about potential groundwater contamination; water trucking is being used.

In the cities of Bayada and Soussa, water trucking cost increased by 40 - 60 per cent while the sewage collection network is also damaged, contributing to sewage flooding and water contamination. Soussa, with its population of 20,000, faces water network damage, but electricity has been restored. [WHO](#) reports that the environmental situation remains challenging with the proliferation of disease vectors such as flies and mosquitoes. Stagnant water, particularly in Al-Makhili, Derna and Soussa, is a breeding ground for mosquitoes and creates conditions conducive to the spread of waterborne diseases such as Cholera. According to the Libyan National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), 238 cases of diarrhoea were reported between 14 and 18 September 2023. A total of five cases of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) were reported among displaced children in shelters (NCDC).

Education

[Educational](#) facilities were extensively impacted in the 15 affected municipalities. According to the Ministry of Education (MoE), out of a total of 114, 80 schools suffered partial damage and 4 schools were totally destroyed in the affected areas. According to IOM, internally displaced people have sought refuge in several schools, including ten in Benghazi, five in Algoba, ten in Shahat, seven in Derna, and three in Albayda.

Humanitarian Response

Emergency relief efforts are on-going in Derna and other affected areas. The Ministry of Health and WHO restored 10 health facilities and supported the establishment of six field hospitals. WHO provided noncommunicable disease kits to Primary Health Care (PHC) centres in Derna, Shahat, AlBayda, Al Marj and Sousa. Educational messages against waterborne diseases during and after the floods have been prepared and shared with partners.

[UNICEF](#) supported the Ministry of Health's Primary Health Care Institute with essential equipment to support provision of maternal, child health and basic services in affected cities, including gynecological beds, cardiotocography (CTG) and first aid kits. UNICEF also supported the NCDC to initiate a precautionary

measles vaccination campaign in storm-affected locations, targeting 12,000 displaced children, focusing on age groups of 1-6 years. UNICEF initiated a media network group comprising of media representatives, religious leaders, and women councilors with Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) training, serving as a vital community feedback platform. A Rumors Detection and Response WhatsApp room was established to combat misinformation.

On 19 September, [UNHCR](#) dispatched in country an aircraft carrying 53 metric tons of relief items for 10,000 people. In addition, medicine for 10,000 people arrived in Benghazi on 21 September. UNHCR, with its partner LibAid, distributed items to about 400 people in Benghazi on 21 September; other distributions also took place in Ajdabiya, Takness, Guandoola, Al Hania and Al Hamama. [UNHCR](#) is distributing core relief items and over 5,000 people have been assisted to date, including 1,200 people in Derna. Planning is underway to transport further relief items for over 16,600 people by road and air. [Medicines](#) for up to 10,000 people departed arrived in Benghazi on 21 September and will be dispatched to Derna. Transportation of generators and rub halls is underway as well.

The World Food Programme ([WFP](#)) tripled its assistance in affected areas, reaching over 16,000 people across 13 cities with food emergency support thus far. WFP requires US\$6.5 million to assist 100,000 affected people in northeast Libya with much needed food and cash over the next three months.

As part of efforts to prevent waterborne diseases, UNICEF supported the NCDC in dispatching 32,000 water purification tablets to Derna. UNICEF has also initiated procurement of 100 drums of 25kg Calcium Hypochlorite to support the General Company of Water and Wastewater (GCWW). UNICEF will work with GCWW to chlorinate the four main water reservoirs in the city of Derna to avoid a potential outbreak of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD). This intervention will benefit at least 50,000 people in Derna. UNICEF joined efforts with other UN agencies through the activation of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) and distributed a total of 170 family hygiene kits (i.e. 850 people including 250 men, 260 women, 340 children).

International Medical Corps ([IMC](#)) will be distributing 200 hygiene kits in Derna and has been coordinating with the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) working group to possibly deliver complementary WASH services at the health facility level in affected communities, including providing adequate water to the facilities while addressing infection prevention and control concerns in the community.

Responding to child [protection](#) needs, UNICEF started establishing mobile child protection and psychosocial support teams in collaboration with the Social Affairs (MOSA) and NGO partners, in Shahat and Benghazi shelters. UNICEF supports MOSA's child development centre (CDC) at Benghazi Sidi Khalifa Area, through CDC mobile teams.

On [education](#), UNICEF has provided 200 school-in-a-box kits capable of establishing a classroom for 40 students. These kits have been delivered to the authorities for distribution based on prioritized needs.